

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A system comprising: a remote unit in communication with a central office, the remote unit comprising a Global Positioning System receiver, a processor in communication with the Global Positioning System receiver and in communication
5 with a memory, the remote unit transmitting Global Positioning System data to the central office, wherein the central officer compares the Global Positioning System data to a predetermined parameter having a range of acceptable values, and notes if the predetermined parameter is outside the range of acceptable values.

10 2. The system according to claim 1, wherein the remote unit communicates with an ignition sensor.

3. The system according to claim 2, wherein a service center location is designated.

15 4. The system according to claim 3, wherein the system receives a signal from the ignition sensor and determines the location of the vehicle and retrieves a time, whereby the system stores the time as the actual start to a shift time.

5. The system according to claim 4, wherein the actual start of shift time is compared to a predetermined range of start of shift times, wherein if the actual start of shift time is outside the predetermined range of start of shift times, then the system notes an exception.

6. The system according to claim 1, wherein the actual speed of the remote unit is compared to a predetermined speed and if the actual speed is greater than the predetermined speed, the system notes an exception.

7. The system according to claim 1, wherein the length of time the remote unit remains in a stationary position monitored and is compared to a predetermined stationary, and if the length of time that the remote unit remains in a stationary position is greater than the predetermined stationary time, the system notes an exception.

8. The system according to claim 1, wherein the actual number of times a remote unit is within a predetermined proximity to a service location is compared to a predetermined number of proximities to a service center and if the actual

number of proximities to a service center is greater than the predetermined number of proximities, then the system notes an exception.

9. The system according to claim 1, wherein the length of time a remote unit is in motion is defined as an actual windshield time, and wherein the actual windshield time is compared to a predetermined range of windshield times, and if the actual windshield time is outside the predetermined range of windshield times, the system notes an exception.

10. The system according to claim 9, wherein the system communicates with an ignition sensor and determines the actual length of time the ignition is turned on for a predetermined time period, the resulting value being defined as a cumulative ignition time, wherein the system compares the actual cumulative ignition time with the windshield time and notes an exception if the ignition time exceeds the windshield time by a predetermined margin.

11. The system according to claim 1, wherein a distance traveled by the remote unit in a predetermined time period is defined as actual travel distance, and wherein the system compares the actual travel distance to a predetermined range of travel distances and notes an exception if the actual travel distance is outside the

predetermined range of travel distances.

12. The system according to claim 1, wherein the remote unit detects a loss of
Global Positioning System signal and stores information associated with the loss of
5 signal.

13. A system comprising:

a remote unit in communication with an alert signaling device and receiving
alert signaling information from the alert signaling device;

10 the remote unit in communication with a Global Positioning System receiver
and receiving position information from the Global Positioning System receiver,

the remote unit transmitting alert information and position information to an
alert call center.

15 14. The system according to claim 13 wherein the alert call center contacts
authorities and makes position information available to the authorities.

15. The system according to claim 13 wherein the signaling device is a remote transmitter.

16. The system according to claim 13 wherein the signaling device is a switch or
5 button disposed in a vehicle.

17. A system comprising:

(a) a central location;

(b) a remote unit in communication with the central location, the
remote unit in communication with a Global Positioning System
10 receiver and receiving Global Positioning System information from the
Global Positioning System receiver;

the remote unit having a first state wherein the remote unit consumes a first
quantity of power and a second state where the remote unit consumes a second
15 quantity of power, the first quantity of being greater than the second quantity of
power;

the remote unit storing the Global Positioning System information in a memory
wherein the remote unit transmits the Global Positioning System information to the

central office when the remote unit is in the second state.

18. The system according to claim 17, wherein the remote unit is in the first state when a vehicle is on and the remote unit is in a second state when the vehicle is off.

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19. The system according to claim 17, wherein the remote unit is in the first state during a predetermined time coinciding with the work shift of a technician and wherein the remote unit is in the second state during a time other than the predetermined time.

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20. The system according to claim 17, wherein other information, in addition to the Global Positioning System information, is stored in the memory.

15 memory.

21. The system according to claim 17, wherein other information is stored in the